

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Independent claims 3, 15, 19 and 20 are amended herein.

Claims 14, 22-26 and 38 are canceled, as these claims were previously withdrawn from consideration. Please note that claims 1 and 2 were canceled in Item 21 of the Application Transmittal filed with the application.

Claims 5-9 and 12-13 are "objected to". Therefore, new claims 43-49 are added and correspond, respectively, to "objected to" claims 5-9 and 12-13, written in independent form to thereby be allowable.

Claims 27-37 and 39-42 are allowed.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3-13, 15-21, 27-37 and 39-49 are currently pending.

II. UNACKNOWLEDGED REFERENCES

An IDS was filed on January 13, 2004, to submitted references from the parent application. The Examiner indicated that various references in the IDS were not acknowledged, as the Examiner did not have access to these references from the parent application.

Accordingly, an additional IDS was filed concurrently herewith, to resubmit the references.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 3, 4, 10, 11 AND 15-18 UNDER 35 USC 102(e) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY GOLDBERG, AND REJECTION OF CLAIM 3, 4, 10, 11 AND 15-21 UNDER 35 USC 103 AS BEING OBVIOUS OVER TAKEDA

Independent claims 3, 15, 19 and 20 are amended herein to recite the occurrence of "Raman amplification". From the Examiner's comments in item 8 on page 4 of the Office Action, it is respectfully submitted that the amendments distinguish over the cited references.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Serial No. 10/755,384

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this response, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: Paul I. Kravetz
Paul I. Kravetz
Registration No. 35,230

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501